

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

SYRACUSE 10, NEW YORK

TELEVISION AND RADIO CENTER

December 8, 1961

Mr. Samuel I. Connor, Director
Office of Public Information
Lehigh University
Bethlehem, Penna.

Dear Mr. Connor:

Thank you for your recent letter of enquiry concerning Syracuse University's operation of Station W A E R.

The station was seen as means, in the 40's, to exploration of the potential of educational frequency modulation broadcasting. As a result of help by General Electric and subsequent enthusiasm of the FCC, W A E R became the first low-power FM educational operation in the country. In short order, it also became the first operation at high power (1000 w).

It is entirely student-run. The engineers are the only paid staff. As you will note from the accompanying current program guide, there is little trouble in inducing faculty to participate in locally-produced programs: our audience is the community, rather than the campus.

Although our broadcasting majors are heavily represented on the "Senior Staff" that manages the station, it is open to students from any college or school within the university. And of the general staff (eighty-seven in all), perhaps fifty represent other majors.

A student Program Director, with my help, reviews all programming matters and decisions.

At our "effective radiated power" of 730 watts, we assume fairly comprehensive coverage of the area encompassed within a twenty-five mile radius. With our proposed transmitter-move, our power will rise to 4.5 KW by June. This will make effective cooperation with the Educational Radio Network possible.

Let me recommend that you contact Mr. Donald Quayle, Educational Radio Network, c/o Station W G B H, Kendall Square Office Building, Cambridge, Mass., for additional information.

RUANE B. HILL, GEN. MGR, WAER